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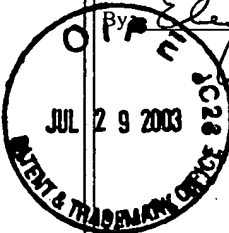
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PATENT

By

Elizabeth L. Deland

Attorney Docket No. SIC-01-011



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

MASAHIRO YAMANAKA

Application No.: 10/002,256

Filed: November 23, 2001

For: SEAL ASSEMBLY FOR A BICYCLE
BOTTOM BRACKET

) Examiner: J. Smith

) Art Unit: 3682

) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
) UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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Commissioner:

The references cited on the attached form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of each reference is enclosed.

The references were cited in a European Search Report for EP 02026091.5, the European patent application which corresponds to this application. A copy of the European Search Report is also enclosed so that the examiner may refer to it when deciding the relevance of the references.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the first Office Action and before the mailing date of a final Office Action. Accordingly, a check for \$180 is enclosed pursuant to 37 CFR 97(c) so that the examiner may properly consider the accompanying references.

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

MASAHIRO YAMANAKA
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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James A. Deland".

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